

Cincinnati December 6. 1857

Dr. George Engelmann.

Botanist.

St. Louis Mo.

Esteemed friend in
the cause of Natural Science. Since I last saw
you at the Scientific Association at Albany, N.Y.
I have been devoting my leisure in collecting
the indigenous plants of this region. and especially
the ferns of which I have a large variety
some of which I shall be pleased to send you
if you wish. part of my leisure I devote to
sketching and colouring the plants fruit, flower
especially the delicate & rare. I have been
favoured with several works (Scientific) from
the Government. and among them the Pacific
Rail Road Report. The 1st vol. containing
the Botany of the Expedition. has numerous
illustrations. But one important matter or
item in the descriptions, is omitted, and that is
the colors of the flowers, &c, as also, the shades
of color of the leaves, stems, or stalks, fruit.
Root, &c. could you, dear Sir, at your leisure
give me the desired information in this respect
for I presume you have the work, as also the
plants. My anxiety to obtain the knowledge of
the colors, is to be able to colour the plates of



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the Book. As also to instruct my children in
drawing & colouring. If you desire the fossils
and shells of this region I would be happy to
exchange with you for Plants, and any thing
in Nat. History that you take interest in.

Please Address, While I remain with
feelings of great regard and esteem Your fellow
laborer in the vast fields of Science

David H. Shaffer
Naturalist -

Missouri Q

Mrs. If you know of any others who would
be glad to correspond or exchange with me
please inform me.

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GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS



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